

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	LLM/MSc Law and Political Economy				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMJLAWPE_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	Law				
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Cert, PG Dip				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 or 2				
9	Mode of Study	FT	x	PT	x	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	<u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u>	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<p>Rationale: Recent years have seen a surge of public and academic interest in political economy perspectives across a host of fields. Within Law and Criminology, there has been a growing debate about nature of the intersections between the economy, crime and punishment, whilst interest in the relationship between property, trade, law and regulation continues to expand. This programme provides a unique cross-disciplinary platform for students to critically explore these and related themes through a carefully curated array of modules delivered by experts in political economy from across the fields of Law, Business and Politics.</p> <p>Aims: The programme aims to equip students with an advanced understanding of the range and intricacy of thematic and methodological issues involved in political economy analysis raised by scholarship from different disciplinary perspectives, and aims to help students develop the skills and confidence to order and critically evaluate complex cross-disciplinary theories and debates. The co-taught cross-School module that stands at the heart of this programme provides an exciting opportunity to open horizons and challenge preconceptions about the scope and significance of political economy today.</p> <p>As with the School's LLM/MA in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice programme, this programme is offered with an LLM/MSc award, the selection of which will depend whether the option modules chosen are legal.</p>

15	Entry Criteria
	<p>Minimum entry requirement is a 2:2 honours degree in Law, Criminology, or a related discipline in the humanities or social sciences.</p> <p>Degrees from overseas institutions must be equivalent to a second class honours degree.</p>

	<p>Other relevant qualifications and appropriate professional experience and training are welcome.</p> <p>English language requirements: a minimum of 7 in the IELTS (International English Language Testing System), with a minimum of 6.5 in the subtests.</p>
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16	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>The programme will seek to foster amongst students taking it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advanced understanding of the range of thematic and methodological issues involved in political economy analysis raised by different disciplinary perspectives; • advanced understanding of the significance of political economy perspectives within different disciplines; • advanced understanding of the complexity of political economy perspectives within and across different disciplines. • ability to order and critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in complex cross-disciplinary debates and theories about issues of political economy; • ability to critically evaluate methodologies employed in political economy research; • originality in the application of pertinent knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge; • an awareness of the contested nature of knowledge claims within and across different disciplines in relation to the field; • an ability to deal with complex issues of political economy both systematically and creatively; • an ability to communicate their learning and conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences; • self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems; • the ability to substantiate arguments they raise in their written work by reference to pertinent theoretical and empirical political economy literature and other pertinent sources; • initiative, personal responsibility, and independent learning; • constructive and substantive engagement with peers; • confidence in the subject-specific, intellectual and practical learning outcomes they achieve.
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17	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> <p>Learning: through active participation in the annual CPEIS workshop, weekly term-time seminars and independent study.</p> <p>Teaching: primarily through seminars and the annual workshop, but also using Moodle’s online forum to provide students with appropriate materials and a space to share details of other pertinent publications and events.</p> <p>Assessment: Learning for each module will be assessed by a 4,000-word essay, except for the compulsory research project, which requires the submission of an 8,000-word paper.</p>
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	A combination of essay and alternative assessment will be proposed for the new Research Methods module.
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18	Programme Description
	<p>This programme provides a unique opportunity to undertake study in political economy from experts across fields of Law, Business and Politics at Birkbeck. Students take 3 compulsory modules: a cross-school module '<i>Perspectives on Political Economy</i>', a Law School module providing training on '<i>Critical Methods in Law & Society</i>', and a Law Masters Research Project module which entails writing a 8,000-word supervised research paper on a pertinent topic of their choice. In addition, students can choose from a wide array of carefully curated political economy modules from across Law, Business, and Politics, taking a preponderance of modules from Law overall so as to maintain the core 'Law' character of the programme. Students also participate in a one-off cross-School workshop at the start of their studies, which provides them with an appreciation of the underlying conceptual coherence that unifies the diversity of approaches that feature in the programme.</p>

19	Programme Structure			
Full Time programme – 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALW064S7	Perspectives on Political Economy	30	Compulsory
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Compulsory
7	LALW065S7	Critical Methods in Law & Society Research	30	Compulsory
7		Option [from list]*	30	Optional
7		Option [from list]*	30	Optional
7		Option [from list]*	30	Optional
		Indicative option modules list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law, Post-Colonialism and Political Economy (Law) • Law, Post-Development and the Critique of Political Economy (Law) • Social Justice (Law) • The International Economic Constitution (Law) • Economic Approaches to Law (Law) • World Trade Organisation and the Environment (Law) • International Trade Law (Law) • Constitutional Law (Law) • Global Perspectives on Crime and Crime Control (Law/Criminology) • International Criminological Theory (Law/Criminology) • White-Collar and Corporate Crime (Law/Criminology) 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Powers in World Politics (Politics) • Geopolitics, Population and Environment (Politics) • Global Politics, Governance and Security (Politics) • International Political Economy (Politics) • The European Union: Integration, Politics and Policy (Politics) • The Political Sociology of the Modern State (Politics) • The Politics of Population Change: Immigration, Aging and Conflict (Politics) • Corporate Governance (BEI) • Trust, Social Norms and Institutions (BEI) • Research Methods in Management (BEI) • Innovation Systems Networks and Social Capital (BEI) • Development Policy (BEI) • Globalization, Forces Players and Management (BEI) • Environmental Economics (BEI) • Innovation and the Knowledge Economy (BEI) • Economics: Theory, Policy and Institutions (BEI) • The Dynamics of Global Capitalism: Theory and Practice (BEI) • International Business and Economic Development (BEI) • International Business Strategy (BEI) • International Business Theories and Issues • International Business Ethics (BEI) • Comparative Employment Relations (BEI) • Issues in Development Economics (BEI) <p>*Options selected over the programme must not push overall credits over 180; options selected must also allow there to be a preponderance of Law/Criminology modules.</p>		
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Part Time programme – 2 years

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALW064S7	Perspectives on Political Economy	30	Compulsory
7		Option*	30	Optional
		Option*	30	Optional

Year of entry: 2021/22



Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Compulsory
7	LALW065S7	Critical Methods in Law & Society	30	Compulsory
7		Option*	30	Optional

*Options selected over the programme must not push overall credits over 180; options selected must also allow there to be a preponderance of Law/Criminology modules

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

²⁰	Programme Director	Sappho Xenakis
²¹	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 2020
²²	Date approved by Education Committee	Autumn 2019
²³	Date approved by Academic Board	Spring 2020
²⁴	Date(s) updated/amended	14 January 2019